

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 NSC-05 MC-02 EB-07 OMB-01 /075 W
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R 071847Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1029
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO HQ DA WASHDC
HQ USAF WASHDC
HQ DARCOM ALEX
PM PATRIOT MSL SYS UDADARCOM REDSTONE
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 0082

REDSTONE PASS TO DRCPM-MD-L-L, HQ DA PASS TO DAMA-WSM-A,
DARCOM PASS TO DRCPM-MEW, HQ USAF PASS TO DC/RDQ.

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, MILI
SUBJ: PATRIOT SYSTEM

REF: A) 76 USNATO 6080 (DTG 081758Z NOV 76) (NOTAL);
B) HQ USAF 0045 (DTG 052145Z JAN 77) (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. ON JANUARY 6, 1977, ASYG (DEFENCE SUPPORT) LABERGE,
PROMPTED BY THE US DELAY OF THE AC/280 TRI-SERVICE GROOU ON
AIR DEFENCE (TSGAD) AD HOC MEETING, MET WITH US DEP DEFAD
AND NATO IS DIRECTOR OF ARMAMENTS AND DEFENCE RESEARCH (DADR)
MUELLER TO DISCUSS THE MEDIUM SAM ISSUE. THE DADR OUTLINED
THE TSGAD TASK AND DESCRIBED THE THREE PRINCIPAL FUTURE SAM
SOLUTIONS: (1) PROLONG NIKE HERCULES AND HAWK LIFE; (2)
UNDERTAKE THE ANGLO-FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR A NATO COOPERA-
TIVE DEVELOPMENT; AND (3) ADOPT PATRIOT SUBSEQUENT
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DISCUSSION INCLUDED: (1) THE NEED FOR US TO QUOTE SELL
END QUOTE PATRIOT BY CLARIFYING POSITION ON NIKE
HERCULES AND HAWK PROLONGATION, AND BY EMPHASIZING
OPERATIONAL ADVANTAGES OF EARLY PATRIOT FIELDING
COMPARED TO THE OTHER ALTERNATIVES; (2) THE PROBABILITY
THE ANGLO-FRENCH PROPOSAL WILL GATHER MOMENTUM TOO
GREAT TO STOP IF THE PROJECT SUCCESSOR REPORT IS WITH-
HELD; (3) THE NEED FOR AN ATTRACTIVE COPRODUCTION OFFER;
(4) THE NEED TO ADVISE THE AC/280 TSGAD CHAIRMAN IN
ADVANCE OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE US PRESENTATION AT THE FEB

77 AD HOC MEETING; (5) THE IMPORTANCE OF SEEKING FOUR POWER GROUP SUPPORT; (6) THE INITIATION OF STEPS TO CLARIFY EXISTENCE OF AN AGREED OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE FUTURE SAM; AND (7) THE POTENTIAL CRITICALITY OF THE PURPORTED PATRIOT RADAR FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE PROBLEM IN EUROPE AS NOTED PREVIOUSLY (REF A) THIS MATTER HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED FOR A SINGLE PATRIOT VOICE INSURING FULL COORDINATION WITH STATE AND DEFENSE. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JANUARY 6, 1976, ASYG(FESENCE SUPPORT) LABERGE, PROMPTED BY THE US DELAY OF THE AC/280 TSGAD AD HOC MEETING, MET WITH DEP DEFAD AND NATO IS DIRECTOR OF ARMAMENTS AND DEFENCE RESEARCH (DADR) MUELLER TO DISCUSS THE MEDIUM SAM ISSUE.

2 THE DADR OUTLINED THE TASK OF AC/280 TSG WHICH IS TO PROVIDE THE CNAD INFORMATION REQUIRED TO PERMIT A COHERENT DECISION ON THE FUTURE MEDIUM SAM HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR A WELL PREPARED SUBSTANTIVE PRODUCT WHICH COULD BE DISTRIBUTED FOR NATIONAL REVIEW AND POSITIONS PREPARATORY TO CONSIDERATION AND DECISION AT THE APRIL 1977 MEETING OF THE CNAD THE DADR SAID THERE WERE THREE PRINCIPAL CONTENDING SOLUTIONS.
A. SOLUTION ONE: PROLONG THE LIFE OF NIKE HERCULES AND IMPROVED HAWK. HE INDICATED A SUS OFFER IN THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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REGARD WAS MADE THROUGH NAMSA, BUT COULD NOT PROVIDE DETAILS.

B. SOLUTION TWO: ACCEPT THE ANGLO-FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR A NATO COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT. HE POINTED OUT THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ATTRACTIVENESS OF THIS COURSE TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. COMMENT: THE ANGLO-FRENCH PROPOSAL IS OUTLINED IN AC280-D/81, NOVEMBER 16, 1976. END COMMENT.

C. SOLUTION THREE: ADOPT THE PATRIOT SYSTEM.

3. SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING SIGNIFICANT ITEMS.

A. LABERGE SAID THE US MUST BE WILLING TO QUOTE SELL THE PROJCT END QUOTE. SPECIFICALLY, THE US POSITION ON ENHANCING AND PROLONGING USE OF THE NIKE HERCULES AND IMPROVED HAWK VERSUS FIELDING PATRIOT MUST BE CLARIFIED. THE OPERATIONAL ADVANTAGES WHICH WILL RESULT FROM EARLY FIELDING OF PATRIOT DUE TO ITS RELATIVE ADVANCED STATE OF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE EMPAHSIZED.
B. THE US MUST ASSURE THE PROJECT SUCCESSOR REPORT IS RELEASED FOR USE AT THE AC/280 TSGAD AD HOC MEETING IN FEBRUARY. LABERGE POINTED OUT THAT THE PRICE OF WITHHOLDING THE INFORMATION MAY WELL BE AN INCREASE IN THE PROBABILITY THAT THE ANGLO-FRENCH ALTERNATIVE WILL

GATHER MOMENTUM TOO GREAT TO STOP. THUS, HE BELIEVES AN ATTRACTIVE US COPRODUCTION PLAN MUST ALSO BE FORMULATED AND PROVIDED FOR CONSIDERATION, IF POSSIBLE AT THE AC/280 TSGAD AD HOC MEETING.

C. THE DADR EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE US PROVIDING THE TSGAD CHAIRMAN ADVANCE INFORMATION OF WHAT IWLL BE PRESENTED AT THE FEBRUARY AD HOC MEETING. THIS WILL PERMIT THE CHAIRMAN TO TAKE COMPLEMENTARY ACTION TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.

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D. THE US SHOULD SEEK SUPPORT FOR PATRIOT IN THE FOUR POWER GROUP. LABERGE RELUCTANTLY BUT PRAGMATICALLY OBSERVED THAT FOUR POWER AGREEMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF A POTENTIAL CNAD DECISION WAS KEY.

E. THE ASYG(DEF SPT) HAS INITIATED STEPS TO CLARIFY THE EXISTENCE OF AN AGREED OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR TH FUTURE MEDIUM SAM HE REQUESTED NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES BRIEF HIM ON THIS ISSUE. COMMENT. WE WILL FOLLOW THIS MATTER AND REPORT RESULTS. END COMMENT.

F. THE DADR EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE POTENTIAL CRITICALITY OF THE PURPORTED PATRIOT RADAR FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE PROBLEM IN EUROPE. HE OBSERVED THAT THIS COULD SERVE AS AN ANCHOR POINT FOR EUROPEAN NATION RESISTANCE AGAINST PATRIOT ADLPTION.

4. IN OUR VIEW,THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR AN AUTHORITATIVE AND FULLY COORDINATED US APPROACH TOWARD PATRIOT AND NATO. THIS WOULD NOT OBVIATE PROBLEMS, OF COURSE, BUT WE BELIEVE IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY
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IF THIS COMPLEX, IMPERFECTLY UNDERSTOOD AND IMPORTANT
PROGRAM IS TO BE PRESENTED TO ALLIES IN A CONVINCING
WAY THAT WILL LEAD TO A NATO PROGRAM. WE HAVE RECENT
EXAMPLES TO
REMIND US OF THE HEAVY PRICE WE PAY FOR THE ABSENCE
OF SUCH FULL COORDINATION. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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